

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment After Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and reconsider the application as amended for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments place the claims in condition for allowance and/or in better condition for appeal. The following remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action mailed October 12, 2004.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-36 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 11, 20 and 29 have been amended to be written in independent format including all the limitations of their respective, original base claim. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 10, 19 and 28 have been canceled.

Office Action Summary

Claims 1, 10, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,138,614 of Baumgartner et al. ("Baumgartner"). Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,093,824 of Coan ("Coan") in view of Baumgartner.

It is submitted that claims 1, 10, 19 and 28 have been canceled and, therefore, the rejections with respect to claims 1, 10, 19 and 28 is now moot.

Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-27 and 29-36 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 11, 20 and 29 have been amended to be written in independent format including all the limitations of their respective, original base claim. Claims 3-9 depend from claim 2;

claims 12-18 depend from claim 11; claims 21-27 depend from claim 20; and claims 30-36 depend from claim 29. It is submitted, therefore, that claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-27 and 29-36 are in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome.

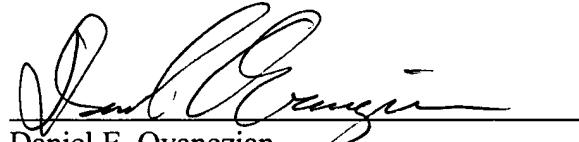
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 1/19, 2005

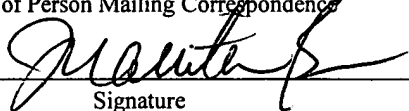

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